

30th March 1928]

A.—(1) *District and taluk boards and municipal councils.*—A statement ^a showing the names of representatives of depressed classes appointed to district boards and municipal councils during the life time of the last Ministry and during the existence of the present one is laid on the table. If other information is required the Government will be prepared to furnish it. Appointments to taluk boards are made by the presidents of district boards and not by the Government.

District educational councils.—The Government have reserved seats for the representatives of the depressed classes on the district educational councils and it has always been their policy to appoint to those seats only members of the depressed classes except in those rare instances where suitable men of the community are not available. A statement ^a showing the names of members appointed to district educational councils to represent the depressed classes during the lifetime of the last Ministry and during the existence of the present one is laid on the table.

Secondary education boards.—The constitution of the district secondary education boards has not till now provided for the representation of the different communities. The names of members appointed to these boards have been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

- (2) (a) Persons not belonging to the Adi-Dravida community were appointed to the Mayavaram and Ootacamund Municipal Councils on the expiry of the terms of the appointed members of that community, as no suitable representative was available in the former case, and the community was already represented by an elected member, in the latter.
- (b) The Government have received the application of M.R.Ry. Krishna Samban and it is under consideration. No application appears to have been received from M.R.Ry. Rathina Samban.
- (c) The question will be considered.

II

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

(1)

The Secretary laid on the table copies of G.O. No. 387, ^b Development, dated 3rd March 1928, recording the audit report of the Russellkonda Saw Mill for the quarter ending 30th June 1927.

(2)

With reference to the Legislative Council resolution passed at its meeting of the 13th December 1921 and G.O. No. 42, Finance, dated 11th January 1922, the Secretary laid on the table copies of the statement ^c of posts on Rs. 500 per mensem and above that have been created during the quarter ending December 1927.

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 289-293 infra.

^b Printed separately.

^c Printed as Appendix IV on pages 294-297 infra.

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[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1928-29.

DEMAND XXII—AGRICULTURE.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

‘ that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 17·86 lakhs under Demand XXII—Agriculture. ’”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question is that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 17·86 lakhs under Demand XXII—Agriculture.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Mr. President, I move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 46,700 for direction be reduced by Rs. 100 ’

in order to criticize the policy of the department as having done little to spread knowledge of agricultural improvements and to improve agriculture.

“ Sir, there are three ways in which agricultural improvement can be spread. One is by means of schools, secondly by experimental demonstration farms and thirdly by means of distributing pamphlets and other literature on the subject. As regards agricultural schools, there are two in this Presidency, of which the Government have closed one or at least have decided to close one. The other school which is in Malabar, it is said, is showing some signs of unpopularity ; so far as I know, it has made not much progress in the way of attracting a large number of people. We are not aware of the causes of this unpopularity of these schools which are after all only two for the whole Presidency. There must be something wrong in the method of education, in the subjects taught. What is perhaps required is that agricultural education should be given not only in special classes, but it must be made a part of the syllabus of all literary schools. At present agricultural education is divorced from education in other subjects, so that when the boys get a smattering of elementary education, they leave the school, probably discontented with their lot ; because they are unable to take to their professional habits, as they have had no vocational education at all, with the result that all these half-educated boys when they leave school are practically fit for nothing.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ May I suggest to the hon. Member to stand at a little distance from the microphone and speak ? ”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Some sort of system should be devised, Sir, and I do not know if this has received the careful consideration of the old and recent ex-Ministers and also of the present Ministers . . . ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ That is a row of ex-Ministers.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ This is a matter of great importance and I think that something should be devised to improve the system of education by which the improved agricultural methods will reach the masses.

“ Then, Sir, as regards demonstration farms, there are very few of these experimental demonstration farms in the province to meet the requirements of the people. In the whole of the district of South Kanara, we have got only two or three of these farms and that in connexion with coconut trees.

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[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

There is no farm there for teaching the improved agricultural methods to the people. If these farms are in the centre of the district at least, people who go there on business will be able to come in touch with them; but they are in one corner of the district, with the result that not many people know much about them. So much with regard to these demonstration farms.

As regards the third point, i.e., education by means of pamphlets, etc., there is of course an agricultural calendar and leaflets are also issued wherein agricultural improvements are brought to the notice of the people; but what is really necessary is that the agricultural officials should be more in touch with the educated people, with the Members of the Legislative Council of the district, with the local board members and with the associations interested in agricultural and industrial development. For instance, in South Kanara we have got a District Advancement Association under the presidentship of the Collector. I am glad that recently arrangements have been made by which the Director of Agriculture and the other agricultural officers come in touch and keep themselves in touch with such associations. I hope, Sir, that more officials will come in contact with such associations and the educated people of the district. It is not quite enough if they go to one village, talk to the people there and get into their confidence; they should place themselves in touch with the educated people.

In this connexion, I may also point out another thing. That is the difficulty arising from the lack of interest taken by the people in these things. Neither landlords nor tenants take any interest in these improved agricultural methods, because there is no certainty of tenure. That is however a point I need not dilate upon, but I hope that some steps will be taken as in Malabar to give fixity of tenure, so that hereafter at least people may take some interest in improving their lands. I shall not further waste the time of this House, Sir, but I would urge that this House, the department and the hon. the Development Minister also should take greater interest in this question which is of paramount importance to the people of this country. We must tackle the question with all earnestness, and I hope that this House will show its earnestness in this question by pressing this motion, if need be, to a division."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"This grant will be guillotined at 1 o'clock before we rise for lunch."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"As I pointed out, Sir, in my speech during the general discussions on the budget, it is passing strange that agriculture which forms the most important avocation of the majority of the people in this province, and gives the largest income to Government has been allotted only Rs. 19.17 lakhs out of Rs. 1,747 lakhs which is the total amount of our expenditure for the coming year. Out of the Rs. 117 lakhs and odd set apart for new expenditure, only Rs. 96,000, i.e., not even 1 per cent has been provided for new expenditure under Agriculture. Sir, Government are getting from land revenue to the extent of Rs. 754 lakhs, that is nearly half of the total revenues. But yet, how little they spend for agricultural improvement and development, as compared with what they spend on other departments. The need for more demonstration officers and more farms, for larger irrigational facilities, for greater number of loans on easier terms, for the expansion of agricultural education and for better tackling of the problem

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

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of cattle breeding have been pointed out very often in this House on previous occasions. But Government are not providing either sufficient men or money for all this work.

12-15
p.m.

"The question of manures may be taken as an illustration of the way in which Government neglect our interests. We read from the report on agriculture that the ryots are coming to appreciate more and more the utility of indigenous manures like fish, bone meal and oil-cakes. But on account of the increase in export to foreign countries the price of these manures is rising higher and thus the ryots are unable to make use of them to the extent to which they desire. The large export of groundnuts is becoming a serious matter. I find that the area under cultivation of this crop in 1927 has been estimated at 3,260,100 acres, that is an increase of 22 per cent over that of the preceding year. In most districts the area is larger than it was in the preceding year. The cultivation of groundnut is increasing rapidly in extent and it is encroaching upon the lands where cotton and food-grains were being produced. No doubt the ryots get money for their produce. But the foreign manufacturer is benefited more and the country loses the oil-cake which is a good manure as well as a valuable food for the cattle. We send out this valuable substance and import chemical manures from countries outside. The estimated yield of this groundnut is nearly 16 lakhs tons of unshelled nuts. If an export duty is put on this at one rupee per ton it will give us Rs. 16 lakhs which can be utilised for starting manufacture of chemical manures and for developing oil industry in our country. The development of oil industry will be of advantage to us in two ways. We can extract the oil ourselves, retain the oil-cake for our own use, which is both a manure and food for cattle and send the oil to foreign countries. By exporting oilseeds we give the manufacture of oil extraction to foreigners and lose also a valuable manure and cattle food. Unless Government wake up to their duties in this as well as other matters concerning agricultural development and improvement, there can be no prosperity for the country."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR:—"A perusal of the report of the department for Agriculture will produce the impression that there is ample justification for more money being spent on agriculture. We are told that as many as 173 students sought admission in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, but owing to the limited accommodation only 48 students were admitted. It was not a particular feature of last year, but seems to have been generally the case during the last five or six years. This shows that Indian students are not averse to taking courses other than purely academic ones. If as many as 173 students wanted to take up agriculture but on account of want of accommodation they had to defer the realisation of their wish to another year then it is a clear case that the need exists for at least one more college of agriculture. Money spent in agricultural education is no loss to the Government and the people."

"Those portions which deal with middle schools are somewhat disappointing. But, I think, a careful reading will show that even those middle schools have not been complete failures, especially the one at Taliparamba and that more specially after the school was thrown open to castes other than Nairs. If this had been done at the beginning the middle school would have developed to a greater extent. I was sorry to notice in to-day's questions and answers, that the middle school at Anakapalle has been abolished. And at

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[Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar]

the same time I find that the hon. the Minister has given his sanction for the opening of another middle school at Kalahasti in Chittoor district and there is also a proposal to open a middle school at Usilampatti. Whatever may be the reasons for the lack of response which the school at Anakapalle had to meet with I still maintain that if sufficient care had been taken to locate the school in a place where there was a real demand for such instruction, or as some of my friends said, if the school had been opened in a deltaic area the experiment would have been a much better success than it ultimately proved. Therefore I say that there is no reason why we should give up this experiment of middle schools as premature or as not meeting the wishes of the people or on the ground that there is no demand for them. A more careful consideration of the circumstances, the place, the nature of the middle school, its syllabus, equipment, the kind of demand or, rather, whether there is a demand for the education imparted in these middle schools—all these considerations should go towards determining the choice of a centre such as would make the middle school flourish.

"I think, Sir, the time is come for us to have more experimental farms and more demonstration farms. This has been already dealt with by one of the previous speakers. I know that when Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar was Minister for Development he visited the experimental station at Aduthurai twice, and those visits were occasions when a large number of mirasidars and ryots assembled in that place and listened to the many lectures delivered both by official and unofficial members, chiefly on the results and nature of the work that is carried on in the experimental farms generally, and in the Tanjore district in particular. Sir, I was fighting for the opening of an experimental station at Trichinopoly and till now I find nothing has been done. These experimental farms carry out into practice the suggestions made by the experts in the Agricultural College at Coimbatore. These experts deal with crops, selection of seeds, pests, more especially insect pests and all the discoveries which are the results of the researches carried on by the experts have their practical application in the demonstration farms whence they filter down to the masses.

"Now, Sir, in addition to these demonstration farms I should like to see a large increase in what are known as demonstration plots opened on the ryots' own lands. If the mountain will not go to Muhammad, Muhammad will have to go to the mountain. If the ryots are very apathetic in taking up the new methods it will be very wise on the part of the Agricultural department to have demonstration plots on the ryots' own lands, and show to the ryots practically the beneficial results obtained by applying the improvements suggested by the experts at the Agricultural College. I should like to see more of these demonstration farms opened. That would mean increase in the staff and that in its turn would mean increase in expenditure. I am for more money being spent on agriculture.

"Secondly, with regard to the diffusion of knowledge, I find, Sir, the Indian agriculturist, even the illiterate ryot has a good deal of commonsense and practically adopts very many of the methods, which Dr. Maine, an authority on agriculture has found to be scientifically correct and suitable. What he requires is to be told of the special manures to be used or how he must conserve manure, what seeds he should use and how he can improve them. If he wants to use a certain manure he has to be told how much water that will require, what kind of soil and so on. These things will certainly make

[Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar] [30th March 1928]

him increase the yield, which is certainly what the demonstration farms have in view. As a matter of fact, I know that many of these demonstration farms have been successful in increasing the yield to twice or thrice more than that which was considered to be the average yield a few years ago.

"Thirdly, as Mr. Saldanha said there is a good deal of literature on the subject. I do admit that we have the villagers' agricultural calendar both in English and in the vernaculars. That is really a very useful work. I myself have collected a number of these, and make use of them with profit and advantage. But the issue of leaflets and bulletins is far below the rate at which they appeared when the Publicity Bureau was in existence. The activities of this department in publishing pamphlets and leaflets on many important agricultural subjects for wide diffusion of knowledge should be taken up by the Agricultural Department. The worst of it is that since its abolition there has not only been a fall in the publication of such pamphlets but that unfortunately many of those publications are out of print to-day. I went twice to the Mount Road Government Book Depot for some of these, but was sorry to learn that many of them are out of print. (Hear, hear.)

"The Publicity Bureau which has been publishing these pamphlets has been abolished. I think it would be better if the Agricultural department which can boast of many experts will do this work. For, it is these pamphlets that carry to the very door of the agriculturists the results of the experiments of the experts in the language of the ryots themselves, all technical terms being rendered in their own language so that any one can, without the assistance of the expert or the specialist, understand what he is asked to do and how best to adopt the methods recommended. Why, he could certainly derive much greater benefit from the application of the results of these experiments when expressed in the ordinary language of the ryot than from learned discourses. So I earnestly press upon the hon. the Minister for Agriculture the consideration, namely, that of continuing the publication of these pamphlets in the vernaculars. On these grounds, I think, considering the importance of this subject, the Government and the department concerned must not think that any money spent on this kind of popular literature is a little too much. As it is, I feel constrained to say it is too little; there is ample scope for improvement and any work done in this way will confer real and lasting benefit on the agricultural population."

12-30
P.m.

* Mr. C. R. T. CONGREVE:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion of my hon. Friend, the mover. I do it because I consider the allotment under this head is so small as to hamper the work of the Agricultural department. I should like to congratulate the Agricultural department on the excellent work they have done in the past and are doing now with the funds at their disposal. The work done by Dr. Bute with regard to sugarcane and G. W. Purrell with rice goes to prove what can be done by this department if they have adequate funds at their disposal. I was reading an article in the *Madras Mail* on agricultural research in India. In it is, I believe, mentioned that at Coimbatore 5,000 lb. of rice per acre have been and are constantly being produced, while the average crop of the ordinary ryot is only in the neighbourhood of 2,500 lb. per acre. Again at Pusa the farm which is 413 acres in extent produced in 1912-13 3,626 maunds of grain and 16,301 maunds of green stuff and fodder; whereas in 1925-26

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[Mr. C. R. T. Congreve]

5,984 maunds of grain and 22,906 maunds of green stuff and fodder were harvested. I think, Sir, that this goes to show clearly what can be done by scientific agriculture.

"Now, turning first to research it seems to me that we want a very much larger body of scientific officers to study the whole question of diseases and cultivation of crops, the better breeding of cattle, and other general conditions in this country. These officers, be they of whatever nationality they may, should only be employed if they have the highest possible scientific attainments. With regard to demonstrators I agree with my hon. Friend who said that we want more demonstrators; but if we have more demonstrators it will be necessary to have more men in the senior service to supervise their work and co-ordinate it and see that it is carried out on the best possible lines.

"My hon. Friend also spoke on the subject of cattle. I think, Sir, that everybody realises that the cattle of this country are amongst the worst in the world, probably due to want of knowledge of breeding and insufficient food. It seems to me that an enormous amount of research can be done in this matter. There are some very fine stocks such as the Sindhi, Nellore, Mysore and other breeds which can be improved by careful selection and breeding. A great deal can be done in this way to improve the milk supply of the cattle in this country. It is also necessary to educate the ryot to only breed from young and healthy stock and not to allow bulls to run with the herds promiscuously. Research under this head will, I think, cost a lot of money but the results still justify increased expenditure. A trial is being made at the Hosur station and at the Coimbatore Agricultural College and bulls are now being sent out to help the ryots' cattle but a great deal more can be done and should be done. Again, from what I have seen the cattle here seem to wander about the roads and pick up the grass along the edges. Now it seems to me that it is quite impossible to expect to get decent cattle if this is the way cattle are fed. I consider the Agricultural department could serve a very useful purpose if they started experimenting with fodder crops and can get the ryots to grow them after they have taken the grain crops off their land. If fodder crops for feeding can be introduced and the ryot taught to grow them, I feel sure it will go a great way for the improvement of the cattle in this country."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I quite wholeheartedly endorse all the statements that fell from the lips of my hon. Friends who spoke before me. Sir, this is a very important question indeed. India's greatest problem is food supply. I personally think that of all the Britisher's burdens perhaps the heaviest is our Blessed India. Before I proceed any further I wish to quote the statements of some distinguished personages in support of my contention.

"Sir W. W. Hunter once had said that the English in India are now called upon either to stand by and witness the pitiless overcrowding of masses of hungry humanity or to aid the people in increasing their food supply to meet their wants.

"Hon. F. A. Nicholson once rightly said that the agriculture in India is starved by the Government with the largest land revenue in the world.

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"Mr. W. Crooke also on one occasion had said that there is perhaps no more pathetic situation in the whole range of human history than to watch these dull and patient masses stumbling in their traditional way along a path which can lead only to suffering.

"Sir H. S. Cunningham rightly estimated that 90 per cent of the rural and 80 per cent of the total population of India is closely connected with the land. From these unfortunate people the Government of India draws the largest revenue. In other words the largest revenue is drawn from the poorest country in the world.

"So under the above circumstances one would naturally expect that the improvement of agriculture would have received the most earnest attention of the Government of India. Something, it is true, has been done, I do not deny, but on the whole, the neglect has been most deplorable. What has the Madras Government done for our province? Nothing more than assuming the eye-wash policy of throwing away the usual crumbs to the Agricultural department.

"If we just pause for a moment and see around for some effectual remedies, they are not far to be found. In my speech last year I suggested several ways and means for the department to take up and see if they are workable with least expense, but the lack of funds has been the invariable excuse of hon. the Minister-in-charge. The establishment of an Agricultural department is only the beginning of measures for the benefit of ryots of the province but my honest opinion is that developing the intelligence of the ryots lies at the root of all improvement. The value of rural education given to ryots will mostly depend upon its character.

"Our present system of education tends to give our youth a taste for a town rather than a country life the very thing which ought not to be done.

"A series of elementary text books on agriculture and kindred subjects should be prepared suitable for primary schools in rural districts. Natural phenomena as wind, rain, lightning, the formation of soil and the growth and structure of plants would be excellent and interesting subject for lessons. The prevailing defect in Indian agriculture might be shown with the advantage of an opposite course.

"If I remember rightly Lord Mayo was probably the only Governor-General who had farmed for a livelihood and made a living out of it. After he became Governor-General of India he honestly felt that the improved agriculture was the greatest need for the national progress of India. The progress is practicable. Sir Richard Temple in one of his speeches said that eleven bushels of grain are produced per acre in India as compared with thirty in England. The present rate of produce in England or in any other country was obtained only gradually. In England the average yield per acre is now about 36 bushels, in Scotland it had advanced to 44.

"I entirely agree with any one who says that it is not possible at one bound to introduce scientific agriculture, but sufficient progress might be made to meet the exigencies of the case. If one-fourth of a candy an acre could be added to the produce of our Indian field it would feed more people. All this is possible only when the ryots of our country are properly instructed in the improved methods of cultivation.

"Agriculture is now a transferred subject. Hon. the Minister concerned could do a whole lot if he so chooses. I think and honestly think that

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[Mr. G. R. Premayya]

all sides of this hon. Council will now agree with me to say that the rural agricultural education is totally neglected. The hon. the new Minister concerned will be failing in his duty if he shuts up his eyes and says that everything is just fine as long as the world serves him aright. With these remarks, I support the motion."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" I move, Sir, that the question be now put."

The motion was put to the House and declared carried. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 8. Mr. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. |
| 2. " O. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 9. " M. Narayana Rao. |
| 3. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 10. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 4. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 11. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 5. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 12. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 6. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 13. Mr. K. Koti Reddi. |
| 7. " K. V. R. Swami. | 14. " C. Venkatragam Nayudu. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks. | 22. Mr. Mappil Nayar of Kavalappara. |
| 2. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 23. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 3. " Mr T. E. Moir. | 24. Rao Bihadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. |
| 4. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 25. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 5. " Mr. M. R. Seteratnam Ayyar | 26. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 6. " Mr. S. Muthian Mudaliyar. | 27. " M. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 28. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 8. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai. | 29. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 9. Mr. F. B. Evans. | 30. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 10. " H. A. Watson. | 31. " S. Venkayya. |
| 11. " G. T. Boag. | 32. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 12. " A. McG. C. Tampoe. | 33. Sir James Simpson. |
| 13. " S. H. Slater. | 34. Mr. K. Kay. |
| 14. " C. B. Cotterell. | 35. " C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 15. " P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai. | 36. " A. T. Luker. |
| 16. " R. Foulkes. | 37. Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 17. Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur. | 38. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 18. Mr. A. B. Shetty. | 39. The Zamindar of Kalikotta. |
| 19. " J. Bheemayya. | 40. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 20. " V. Ch. John. | 41. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 21. Mahmud Schahmad Sahib Bahadur. | |

Ayes 14.*Noes* 41.

The motion was lost.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am 12-45
an agriculturist myself and it is my sincere wish that I should do something p.m.
in the near future during the tenure of my office. I have heard the hon. Members very carefully in regard to the suggestions to improve the efficiency of the Agricultural department. I find that the Agricultural school at Tali-paramba is very popular and students are increasing in number. The school at Anakapalle has been closed as it did not attract students. The opening of a school at Kalabasti has been sanctioned but not yet opened. The opening of yet another school for the Tamil area at Usilampatti is to be sanctioned next year and is under consideration. With regard to Mr. Shetty's proposal I may say that Government have an idea of appointing an oil specialist in the year 1929-30. We have now on hand fourteen experimental stations in the Presidency but the problem of diffusion of knowledge is not a simple one. Experience has shown that the ryots will not change their present methods and adopt improved methods without adequate proof that they will be

[Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar] [30th March 1928]

benefited by them. It is therefore necessary that experiments should be demonstrated on the ryots' own lands. Now we have not got enough trained hands to demonstrate in the ryots' fields. The idea is to have one demonstrator for each taluk. We have at present 1,200 demonstration plots and in order to meet the difficulty of want of trained men, we have increased the admission to the agricultural college from 20 to 40 last year. Agricultural knowledge is also spread by means of exhibitions, by lantern lectures at fairs and festivals and by distribution of leaflets. With regard to the difficulty pointed out by the hon. Member, Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, regarding the publication of leaflets I shall look into the matter and see where exactly the difficulty arises. Another step towards demonstration which we have under contemplation is the fitting up of a motor unit with a cinema outfit in order to exhibit to the ryots in interior parts, pictures showing methods of improved cultivation advocated by the department and their results. Thus in a cotton tract pictures showing cotton cultivation, etc., will be exhibited; in a sugarcane tract pictures on sugarcane cultivation will be exhibited. It is hoped to fit up two motor units early in the next financial year—one for the north of the Presidency and the other for the south. The only difficulty now is want of adequate funds for the same. That is the great fear. The Royal Commission on Agriculture has visited and has taken evidence in the various parts of the Presidency and as soon as its report is received Government will consider the recommendations made by them to improve the agricultural conditions in the Presidency."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"Sir, I wish to bring to your notice an objectionable statement made by one of the members, I mean the mover of the amendment, Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar. He quoted a proverb which is very objectionable. He said that if mountain would not come to Muhammad, Muhammad should go to the mountain. This is a slander and there is in it an allusion to a false story concocted by the enemies of Islam. In an assembly of this kind where representatives of different religions meet to make such a statement is certainly objectionable. I strongly object to the statement and I hope you will call upon the gentleman to withdraw the statement."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It appears that the hon. Member, Mr. Schamnad takes objection to the proverb: 'If the mountain does not go to Muhammad, Muhammad will go to the mountain.' The hon. the Home Member will enlighten us."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I think it is objectionable."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I would advice the hon. Member Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar to withdraw the remark."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, when I used the proverb I never thought that it would meet with the least objection from any quarter. It is a very ordinary proverb. But seeing that it has given offence to my Muhammadan friends, I readily and most willingly withdraw the same."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, coming from the mountain to the Development Minister, I have to say that we are aware that the Development Minister is an agriculturist. We are also aware that he is not a strong man in his department. Even in respect of his attitude

30th March 1928] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

towards the closure motion I am afraid he has been pulled up by his Colleague the Finance Member. Having regard to the weak position of the Ministry in the present situation I am only afraid he cannot make good the promises he has made."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Mr. President, in the short time at my disposal I do not propose to deal with the reference of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition to the question of closure except to say that we have as much right to *oppose* the closure of reasonable debate as the Opposition have to *move* it. I would, however, refer to the criticisms passed by the hon. Member who represents the planting industry on the agricultural budget. He urged that the sums allotted for this department were quite inadequate to meet the needs of the ryots. May I say that I heartily concur in these remarks, and personally agree that much more money might profitably be spent on this important department, but may I assure him that, to the best of my recollection, since our financial position improved, no demand, put forward by the Agricultural department has been turned down and that the budget for the coming year includes all the proposals which they were in a position to put forward? His reply to that will no doubt be that in that case the proposals put forward by the department are inadequate. And there is justification for that view. But perhaps I might point out the real reason why progress has been curtailed. I entirely agree with what the hon. Member said about the necessity for the department having at its disposal men of the highest possible attainments, in order that the scientific instruction and research for which they are responsible may be handed down properly through the department to those demonstrators and others who in the field have to place the ryots in touch with the practical knowledge which derives its origin from such research. But the hon. Member will remember that some years ago, shortly after the reforms, this important department was practically denuded of the highly trained staff of scientists and research workers which had been built up since it was placed on an organized footing. I have no time to go into the causes which led to that serious loss but its effects were, of course, disastrous to the department. And the Director of Agriculture has had a very difficult task indeed in building up a department adequately staffed to meet the objects for which it exists. And that is why progress has been considerably delayed. But a considerable measure of success has been achieved in placing the department once again on a proper footing and I sincerely trust that it will now be possible to go forward with more extensive schemes for the benefit of agriculture which is far and away the most important industry in this province, and the advancement of which will benefit our greatest asset, the industry and labour of the largest section of our population."

The motion was put to the House and declared lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr J. A. Saldanha. | 10. Mr. M. Narayana Rao. |
| 2. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 11. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 12. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 4. " P. Anjuresulu. | 13. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasaya. |
| 5. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 14. Mr. K. Koti Reddi. |
| 6. " U. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 15. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 7. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 16. " R. Nagan Gowda. |
| 8. Mr. K. V. R. Swami. | 17. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 9. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur. | 18. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |

[30th March 1928]

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks. | 22. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nam- |
| 2. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad | budripad. |
| Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 23. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 3. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 24. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 4. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 25. " M. V. Gangadbara Siva. |
| 5. " Mr. M. R. Setura'nam | 26. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| Ayyar. | 27. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 6. " Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar. | 28. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 29. " S. Venkayya. |
| 8. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai. | 30. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 9. Mr. H. A. Watson. | 31. Sir James Simpson. |
| 10. " G. T. Boag. | 32. Mr. K. Kay. |
| 11. " A. McG. C. Tampoe. | 33. " A. T. Luker. |
| 12. " S. H. Slater. | 34. Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 13. " C. B. Cuttrell. | 35. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 14. " P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai. | 36. Syed Iajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 15. " R. Foulkes. | 37. Raja of Panagal. |
| 16. Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur. | 38. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 17. Mr. J. Bheemayya. | 39. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 18. " V. Cn. John. | 40. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 19. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 41. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur. |
| 20. Mr. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. | 42. Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 21. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 43. Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 44. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |

Ayes 18. Noes 44.

The motion was lost.

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

At this stage the Council rose for lunch.

After Lunch—(3 p.m.)**I****QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—cont.**

[Vide page 237 supra.]

STARRED QUESTION**Industries***The condition of the Carnatic Paper Mills.*

* 1847 A Q.—The RAJA OF RAMNAD: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total amount lent by the Government to the Carnatic Paper Mill;

(b) what is the amount spent already in the concern;

(c) what is its present liability;

(d) whether one of its creditors is seeking a liquidation for non-payment of debts;

(e) whether the company has applied to Government for further assistance and if so, on what date and to what extent;

(f) why has the application not been disposed of yet;

(g) will the Government kindly lend the further loan at least to the extent of its liability immediately and the balance shortly; and

(h) what do they propose to do to safeguard their interests in the concern?